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PP RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHNEH
DE RUEHNE #0734 1051109
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 151109Z APR 09 VOL ZDK TO ALL
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6162
INFO RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI
RUEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHDC
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1671
RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 4556
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 3768
RUEHNEH/AMCONSUL HYDERABAD 0456
RUEHKKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 2070
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 5951
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 2513
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 9429
RUEHBBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI 3595
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 6208
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 7856
RHOVVKG/COMSEVENTHFLT
RHMFIISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

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TAGS: KMDR KPAO PGOV PREL IN

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: PAKISTAN, NORTH KOREA; NEW DELHI.

This countrywide cable reports on relevant media reaction/opinion from India's large non-English press. The Mission reports on English-language media via email through the daily "Early Edition" summary.

PAKISTAN

¶1. "PAKISTAN GIVING IN TO TALIBAN," editorial in the April 15 centrist Marathi daily SAKAAL. "Demonstrating a clear lack of will to challenge the Taliban, Pakistani president Asif Zardari has signed a regulation imposing Islamic law in the northwestern Swat valley as part of a deal to end Taliban violence. This act on the part of the cowardly Zardari legitimizes the Taliban's influence in the north-west frontier of Pakistan. It revives concerns about the stability of nuclear-armed Pakistan. It also puts a question mark on Pakistan's role as an important U.S. ally in the war on terror. India of course has more reasons to be on the alert after this development..."

NORTH KOREA

¶2. "IRRESPONSIBLE NORTH KOREA," op-ed article by retired Air Marshall A K Trikha in April 15 centrist Marathi daily SAKAAL. "North Korea's latest missile test is an alarming development. But the global community cannot

immediately impose sanctions on this nation. North Korea is not a major power bloc. It is a developing economy, struggling to rise above the ill-effects of the Korean war. The country does not have numerous sources of production. If one examines its trade patterns, North Korea looks upon its nuclear deals as normal commerce with any country, not cooperation based on any ideologically bound power bloc. North Korea's nuclear program also stems from the country's insecurities with regard to the nuclear armament plans of neighboring Japan and U.S.-supported South Korea..."

BURLEIGH